

broadening access to home and community-based services, we can help ensure that the quality of care individuals receive in their home and community is just as accessible an option as hospital and institutional attention.

Madam Speaker, this is an important resolution for three crucial reasons. First, it endorses the efforts of the elderly and individuals with disabilities to remain independent and sustain their viability during the last years of their life. Supporting studies show that individuals who receive home and community-based care have greater life expectancies than those who are moved from everything that is familiar to them and placed in hospitals and other forms of institutional care.

Second, this resolution promotes the expansion of employment opportunities in the nursing and in-home care industries. By implementing government funded in-home care as a viable alternative to that of nursing home care, more seniors will elect to be nursed at home, creating a situation that will enhance their quality of life while also increasing job opportunities.

Finally, this resolution encourages the implementation of more unified training and supervision standards for certified nurse aides and homecare aides. Through adoption of uniformly high standards, we can ensure our citizens in need have access to qualified professionals when selecting home and community-based care.

According to the National Association for Home Care and Hospice, which I am proud to report supports this resolution, patients receiving home and community-based care are more likely to enjoy better outcomes, including a greater responsibility for healthier living, increased independence and productivity, self-esteem, family cohesion and overall contribution to their larger community.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation. As Members of Congress, we have a great opportunity to make a positive impact on this issue, an issue that is of concern to many of our grandparents, parents, and will be of concern to us. I look forward to working with my colleagues and moving this resolution forward.

HONORING THE MINNEAPOLIS
VETERANS AFFAIRS MEDICAL
CENTER FOR RECEIVING THE
16TH ANNUAL ROBERT W. CAREY
PERFORMANCE EXCELLENCE
AWARD

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 1, 2007

Ms. McCOLLUM of Minnesota. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the Minneapolis Veterans Affairs Medical Center, its director Stephen Kleinglass, and the entire medical center staff, for being recognized as a 2007 award recipient at the 16th Annual Secretary's Robert W. Carey Performance Excellence Ceremony on November 1st, 2007. This Department of Veterans Affairs award acknowledges the highest levels of performance and service excellence through evaluation by rigorous criteria.

As the daughter of a WWII veteran, I feel strongly about honoring our veterans and their

families. The professionalism and high quality of care provided by the staff of the Minneapolis Veterans Affairs Medical Center is evident whenever I visit.

Serving nearly 75,000 veterans each year, the Minneapolis Veterans Affairs Medical Center is among the most active in the country. Through its partnership with University of Minnesota Medical and Dental Schools, it has distinguished itself by providing the highest quality health care to veterans. Minnesota and western Wisconsin veterans and their families have long appreciated the staff commitment to serve all veterans.

The dedication of staff to provide the highest level of care is particularly visible through their work to meet the great needs of our injured veterans returning from Iraq and Afghanistan. Minneapolis is just one of four locations in the Nation with a Polytrauma Rehabilitation Center designed to provide intensive rehabilitative care to veterans and service members who experienced multiple severe injuries, including brain injuries. Construction on a new Spinal Cord Injury Center is underway, and is scheduled to open in 2008.

The success of our Nation's veterans health system depends on caring, dedicated people serving our veterans, but they cannot do the job alone. On the battlefield, the military pledges to leave no soldier behind. As a Nation, let it be our pledge that when they return home, we will leave no veteran behind.

This year, the U.S. House of Representatives passed the largest single increase in the 77-year history of the Veterans Administration—\$6.7 billion. This funding is necessary to ensure that the Minneapolis Veterans Affairs Medical Center, and VA medical centers across the country have the resources they need to fund the increasing need for mental health, posttraumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injury care, and to provide facilities maintenance, and to continue reducing the backlog of veterans benefits claims.

The Minneapolis Veterans Affairs Medical Center has a proven record of organizational excellence. The Carey Award recognition allows the leadership shown in Minnesota to serve as a model for other organizations in assessing their own transformation efforts, effectiveness and service performance. Most importantly, this award recognizes the outstanding efforts made by the staff on behalf of our veterans at the Minneapolis Veterans Affairs Medical Center.

Madam Speaker, please join me in commending the Minneapolis Veterans Affairs Medical Center staff for earning the Robert W. Carey Performance Excellence Award. These caring people exemplify the very best in public service.

LENOX HILL HOSPITAL CELEBRATES ITS 150TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 1, 2007

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Lenox Hill Hospital on the occasion of its 150th Anniversary. Lenox Hill Hospital is an accredited not-for-profit acute-care hospital and teaching affiliate of New York University Medical Center lo-

cated on the Upper East Side of Manhattan in New York City. Lenox Hill Hospital has become renowned for furthering medical research and establishing a tradition of excellence in patient care. It has earned a national reputation for outstanding medical care and treatment.

Lenox Hill Hospital was established in 1857 as the German Dispensary and today provides specialty services and ground-breaking care for millions of patients each year. Approximately 45% of Lenox Hill Hospital's patients are from Manhattan. The remaining 55% come from Brooklyn, Bronx, Queens, Long Island, the Tri-State area and around the world. Lenox Hill Hospital is particularly well known for its excellence in internal medicine, cardiovascular disease, orthopedics, sports medicine, maternal/child health and medical research.

For the past 150 years, Lenox Hill Hospital has been a leading innovator in many fields of medicine, developing standards and practices that became models for other hospitals throughout the country. In 1897, the hospital installed one of the first X-ray machines in the United States. Ten years later, the hospital established the first physical therapy department in the country.

In 1938, Lenox Hill was the first hospital to perform an angiogram in the nation and in 1955 it became one of the first hospitals in New York City to open a cardiac catheterization laboratory. The first coronary angioplasty in the United States was performed at Lenox Hill in 1978. In 1994, Lenox Hill Hospital surgeons pioneered minimally invasive direct coronary artery bypass surgery. In 2003, the first FDA approved drug coated stent in the nation was implemented at Lenox Hill. In 2006, Lenox Hill opened a new radiology center featuring the only SPECT-CT in the Northeast, a machine which allows physicians to see inside the body in great detail and a new 64-slice CT scanner, one of the most highly advanced computerized imaging technologies available today.

Lenox Hill is respected as a leading responder to health crises. When tuberculosis was becoming a growing public health threat, Lenox Hill Hospital was the first general hospital in the United States to open a tuberculosis division in 1908. In 1943, Lenox Hill Hospital sent its medical unit to England to maintain station hospitals for military personnel during World War II. In 1989, the hospital established the first Lyme Disease Center in New York City.

In keeping with its tradition of providing an immediate and necessary response during times of crisis, on September 11th, when terrorists struck the World Trade Center, Lenox Hill assembled a disaster team that came to the aid of hundreds of New Yorkers. The hospital set up a free walk-in Crisis Counseling Center as well as a blood donor center. Lenox Hill Hospital, as it has done in the past, provided aid to people when it was needed the most and became a beacon of hope for so many on that horrific day.

Madam Speaker, I rise to request that my colleagues join me in paying tribute to Lenox Hill Hospital and its legacy of medical innovation and excellence in patient care.

SUPPORTING THE OBSERVANCE OF BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 29, 2007

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, as this week concludes the National Breast Cancer Awareness Month of October, I rise today to reflect on some of the issues that have been brought to the country's attention over the last 30 days.

According to the National Cancer Institute there have been over 180,000 new cases of breast cancer among men and women and nearly 50,000 deaths in the United States this year. Breast Cancer disproportionately affects women and is the second leading cause of death for American women.

Mrs. Priscilla Davis from Hartford, Connecticut, a constituent as well as the mother of a member of my staff, was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2006. Her story is an all too familiar one—a story of fear and confusion on one hand, and courage, strength and hope on the other. Thankfully, Priscilla's breast cancer was detected early and treated before it was too late. Sadly, as the statistics show, many women are not as fortunate.

Research, education, and awareness are essential in curbing the mortality rates of breast cancer. I would like to commend organizations like the American Cancer Society and the Susan Gomen Foundation for their commitment to making us aware of the symptoms of breast cancer and for their advocacy on behalf of the women and families who have been affected by this deadly disease.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the women and men across the country who share Priscilla Davis's story and in honor of those who have lost their lives to the disease, I ask my colleagues to join me in carrying forward what we learned during this year's National Breast Cancer Awareness Month in the hope that during the next one we will also have cause to celebrate a cure.

TRIBUTE TO THE CITY OF HEBBRONVILLE ON ITS CELEBRATION OF THE HISTORY OF THE VAQUERO

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 1, 2007

Mr. CUELLAR. Madam Speaker, Whereas, the Vaqueros are the true original cowboys of South Texas, and thus started the development of the ranching industry in Jim Hogg County.

Whereas, the first ranches founded in the area with the help of the vaqueros were Randado, Las Noriacitas, Las Animas, San Antonio Viejo, Las Enramadas, Las Vitoritas, El Baluarte, and San Javier. Some of these ranches are still held by descendants of the original owners, such as Randado, which was visited by General Robert E. Lee during the Civil War.

Whereas, the vaqueros were renowned for their exemplary ranching and stock-handling

skills, which were needed for the development of ranches in Jim Hogg County.

Whereas, the skills and the ranching practices shown by the vaqueros have left a lasting impact on the present ranching industry. The equipment of the vaquero—saddle, chaps, bandana, lasso, and spurs—has become the standard gear of all Texas cowboys.

Whereas, ranching remains one of the vital elements of the economy in Jim Hogg County because of the efforts of the vaqueros in the nascent start of the ranching industry; be it hereby

Resolved, That Congressman HENRY CUELLAR, in representing the 28th Congressional District of the State of Texas, commends the City of Hebbbronville on its celebration of the history of the vaquero on November 3, 2007.

IN RECOGNITION OF ORPHANS INTERNATIONAL AND ITS FOUNDER AND PRESIDENT, MR. JAMES LUCE

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 1, 2007

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Orphans International Worldwide and to its dedicated Founder and President, James Luce. Orphans International Worldwide is an innovative interfaith, interracial, intergenerational and Internet-connected non-profit initiative that helps the world's disadvantaged orphaned and abandoned children meet critical needs. By realizing his dream of developing an extensive international network of affiliated organizations working to help the world's youngest and most vulnerable citizens to overcome extraordinarily difficult circumstances, Jim Luce has truly distinguished himself as an extraordinarily dedicated and effective humanitarian, activist, and philanthropist.

With its North American offices headquartered in New York's Fourteenth Congressional District, Orphans International was founded in 1999 by the former investment banker Jim Luce in response to the global crises confronting children in disadvantaged circumstances, including the worldwide AIDS epidemic, natural disasters, low health standards and inadequate medical care, and devastating poverty. Assuming a carefully structured, sustainable approach, Orphans International has adopted as its vital mission the worthy goal of "Raising Global Citizens." The organization helps address both the immediate needs of orphaned and abandoned children and the long-term development goals of improving disadvantaged communities in its project nations, whose list is expanding to include Indonesia, Guyana, Haiti, El Salvador, Peru, the Philippines, Romania, Ghana, Sri Lanka, and Togo. In recognition of its effectiveness in serving disadvantaged youngsters around the globe, Orphans International Worldwide was recognized by the United Nations as an official Non-Governmental Organization in December 2006.

Today, Jim Luce and Orphans International Worldwide continue not only to assure the survival of the disadvantaged and abandoned children they serve, but also to enable them to

become contributing members of a global society by rendering service to their local communities. Orphans International often operates in troubled, regions grappling with the fallout from disasters caused by natural, economic, and political conditions. Through its programming, Orphans International instills in those whom it serves the values of leadership, conflict resolution, diversity and tolerance, and global citizenship, frequently bringing American students into a global partnership to help achieve these laudable goals.

Madam Speaker, I rise to request that my distinguished colleagues join me in recognizing Orphans International Worldwide and its Founder and President Jim Luce for their tireless efforts to promote the well-being of orphaned and abandoned children and to help realize the innate worth, dignity and potential of all citizens of the world.

CONGRATULATING BETSEY FLACK ON HER ADMISSION TO THE GEORGIA BAR

HON. HEATH SHULER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 1, 2007

Mr. SHULER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Betsey Flack on her admission to the Georgia Bar. After years of hard work and dedication to her studies, Ms. Flack will now begin pursuing a career in the legal field.

Ms. Flack attended the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill as an undergraduate. During her time at UNC, Ms. Flack was active in campus activities and academic life. Upon graduation from UNC, Ms. Flack enrolled in classes at the Mercer University School of Law to pursue her Juris Doctor degree.

She completed this program in the spring of this year, and successfully passed the bar exam soon after graduation.

As a Member of Congress, I have seen firsthand how the law can be used as a force for good. I look forward to following the career of Ms. Flack, as she uses her knowledge and expertise in the law to serve others and to pursue legal and social justice.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Ms. Betsey Flack.

60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MOSS LANDING HARBOR DISTRICT

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 1, 2007

Mr. FARR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 60th anniversary of the Moss Landing Harbor District. Moss Landing is a picturesque coastal hamlet tucked into the dunes of the Monterey Bay halfway between its better known neighbors of Monterey and Santa Cruz. It is home to some fantastic restaurants and cafes and an eclectic group of antique shops and some of the best sea otter viewing opportunities anywhere. The many boats that fill its harbor offer a photographers dream of masts and gleaming boat hulls berthed alongside well-worked fishing vessels. It is a truly wonderful place to visit like so